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SOUTH AFRICAN QUALIFICATIONS AUTHORITY

REGISTERED UNIT STANDARD:

Apply operations research principles and tools in the management of project activities and resources

SAQA US ID	UNIT STANDARD TITLE		
119343	Apply operations research principles and tools in the management of project activities and resources		
SGB NAME		**REGISTERING PROVIDER**	
SGB Public Administration and Management			
FIELD		**SUBFIELD**	
Field 03 - Business, Commerce and Management Studies		Public Administration	
ABET BAND	**UNIT STANDARD TYPE**	**NQF LEVEL**	**CREDITS**
Undefined	Regular	Level 5	15
REGISTRATION STATUS	**REGISTRATION START DATE**	**REGISTRATION END DATE**	**SAQA DECISION NUMBER**
Registered	2005-06-15	2008-06-15	SAQA 0260/05

PURPOSE OF THE UNIT STANDARD

Learners working towards this standard will be working within a Public Sector environment, specialising in Public Finance Management and Administration, where the acquisition of competence against this standard will add value to one`s job. This standard will also add value to public officials who are seeking to develop a career pathway towards becoming an accomplished public finance management and administration specialist.

The qualifying learner is capable of:

- Discussing the impact of macro-economic decisions on the economy and a business environment
- Discussing the impact of macro-economic decisions on investment strategies in a business environment
- Using economic indicators to determine the current economic cycle and possible future directions
- Applying trends in the economic environment to a specific financial organisation
- Demonstrating an understanding of the financial world of public finance management and administration
- Demonstrating an understanding of the nature and importance of debt in financing public capital projects

LEARNING ASSUMED TO BE IN PLACE AND RECOGNITION OF PRIOR LEARNING

Learners accessing this Unit Standard must be in possession of a Further Education and Training Certificate or equivalent qualification.

UNIT STANDARD RANGE

N/A

UNIT STANDARD OUTCOME HEADER

N/A

Specific Outcomes and Assessment Criteria:

SPECIFIC OUTCOME 1

Demonstrate an understanding of project management principles as they relate to the public finance management and administration context.

ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

ASSESSMENT CRITERION 1

Project management concepts and frameworks are identified and explained.

ASSESSMENT CRITERION 2

Project needs are identified in the context of public finance and administration.

ASSESSMENT CRITERION 3

Recommendations are made for the adaptation of project management concepts to the identified project needs.

ASSESSMENT CRITERION 4

The project management life cycle is explained in the context of identified needs.

SPECIFIC OUTCOME 2

Identify and apply a range of project management tools to support research in the management of project activities.

ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

ASSESSMENT CRITERION 1

Operational research tools are identified and applied for solving transportation, inventory and other service delivery problems.

ASSESSMENT CRITERION 2

Selected statistical and project management software are used to enhance project management.

ASSESSMENT CRITERION 3

Work packages are developed and further elaborated to systematically present an overall view of the project scope.

ASSESSMENT CRITERION 4

A work breakdown structure is developed and documented within agreed time frames.

SPECIFIC OUTCOME 3

Initiate and manage specific projects within the public finance management and administration context.

ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

ASSESSMENT CRITERION 1

A project management plan is compiled based on identified project needs.

ASSESSMENT CRITERION RANGE

The project management plan includes but is not limited to a comprehensive project life cycle, scoping of project, project schedule, GANT charts, PERT charts, project costs, project resource allocation, selected evaluation measurement tools, strategy for team allocation and management.

ASSESSMENT CRITERION 2

Project plan is initiated and all parties to project are informed of roles, expectations, time frames and feedback tools for reporting on progress.

ASSESSMENT CRITERION 3

Team dynamics relating to project are monitored and managed.

SPECIFIC OUTCOME 4

Evaluate projects.

ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

ASSESSMENT CRITERION 1

Project evaluation and review techniques are applied to simulated situation.

ASSESSMENT CRITERION 2

Deviations from scope are evaluated and opportunities for corrective action or improvement are identified and initiated with relevant individuals/teams.

ASSESSMENT CRITERION 3

Project costs are evaluated in line with budgeted costs in original scope.

ASSESSMENT CRITERION 4

Project management tools are used effectively to monitor and report on project progress.

UNIT STANDARD ACCREDITATION AND MODERATION OPTIONS

- Any individual wishing to be assessed (including through RPL) against this unit standard may apply to an assessment agency, assessor or provider institution accredited by the relevant ETQA, or an ETQA that has a Memorandum of Understanding with the relevant ETQA.
- Anyone assessing a learner against this unit standard must be registered as an assessor with the relevant ETQA, or an ETQA that has a Memorandum of Understanding with the relevant ETQA.
- Any institution offering learning that will enable achievement of this unit standard or assessing this unit standard must be accredited as a provider with the relevant ETQA, or an ETQA that has a Memorandum of Understanding with the relevant ETQA.

- Moderation of assessment will be conducted by the relevant ETQA at its discretion.

UNIT STANDARD ESSENTIAL EMBEDDED KNOWLEDGE

The learner must demonstrate an understanding of:
- Principles, methods and techniques for scoping a project
- Project management tools
- Managing project teams
- Work breakdown structures
- The use of computerized tools for specific project applications
- Project measurement tools

UNIT STANDARD DEVELOPMENTAL OUTCOME

N/A

UNIT STANDARD LINKAGES

N/A

Critical Cross-field Outcomes (CCFO):

UNIT STANDARD CCFO IDENTIFYING

Identify and solve problems using critical and creative thinking processes to compile and manage project plans.

UNIT STANDARD CCFO WORKING

Work effectively with others as a member of a team, group, organization or community to ensure all project criteria are met.

UNIT STANDARD CCFO ORGANISING

Organise and manage oneself and one`s activities responsibly and effectively in order to ensure that project is manage within given timeframes and on budget.

UNIT STANDARD CCFO COLLECTING

Collect, analyse, organize and crtically evaluate facts relating to projects.

UNIT STANDARD CCFO COMMUNICATING

Communicate effectively using visual, mathematical and/or language in the modes of oral and/or written persuasion to convey project progress and changes.

UNIT STANDARD CCFO SCIENCE

Use science and technology effectively and critically, showing responsibility to the environment and health of others to ensure that project management tools are effectively utilised to enhance project productivity.

UNIT STANDARD CCFO DEMONSTRATING

Demonstrate an understanding of the world as a set of interrelated systems by recognising that project management contexts not exist in isolation.

UNIT STANDARD CCFO CONTRIBUTING

Participating as responsible citizens in the life of local, national and global communities by

ensuring that projects are effectively managed.

UNIT STANDARD ASSESSOR CRITERIA

N/A

UNIT STANDARD NOTES

N/A

QUALIFICATIONS UTILISING THIS UNIT STANDARD:

	ID	QUALIFICATION TITLE	LEVEL	STATUS	END DATE
Elective	49554	National Diploma: Public Finance Management and Administration	Level 5	Registered	2008-06-15

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